

# THE DUKE ELLINGTON SOCIETY CHAPTER #90

P.O. BOX 29587 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017-0787

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Terrell A. Allen, President  
(202) 529-5972

Jack Towers, Treasurer  
(301) 559-4126

January 26, 1989

Hi Ellington-person,

We had a very, very good and interesting session last month. We met and enrolled several new dues-paying members who are willing and anxious to help our chapter to grow bigger and better. Ed Morris' focus on the stellar trumpeter, Shorty Baker, was most incisive and enjoyable. If you missed it, you really missed it. We even had food, yet!

Our host for our February 4th meeting is the inimitable John Callinan who's been entertaining us royally for over twenty years. His presentations get better and better and better over the years. How can this be? Don't miss this one February 4th, 8:30 p.m. at Omega House, 13th and Harvard Streets, N.W.

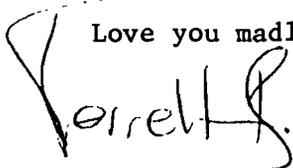
We need your dues, all you procrastinators. We're having election of officers in November and it will be the job of our new officers to set the direction of our chapter for years to come. And if you want to be an integral part of our "electoral process" and chapter rebuilding, you will have to pay your dues.

Registrations for Ellington '89 are coming along slowly but steadily. Have you sent yours in yet? We are asking 100% cooperation from everyone to make this conference a success.

Incidentally, we're also asking the constituency to plan, at least, a two-day reservation at the Mayflower Hotel, preferably the 28th and 29th of April. We need 300 reservations during that period to acquire the free use of their conference rooms. Otherwise, the rentals will be humongous. I'm planning on spending those two nights at the hotel. Why don't you join me?

So - until the fourth when we can listen to and enjoy John Callinan's program -

Love you madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

**ELLINGTON IS FOREVER.**

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**Terrell A. Allen, President**  
(202) 529-5972

~~Grant Wright, Treasurer~~  
Jack Towers  
(202) 526-0828  
(301) 559-4126

February 23, 1989

Hi Music Lover,

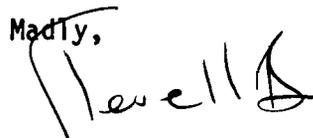
My very good friend and musical compadre, Ray Knight, is ailing. He had been hospitalized until here recently, but is now recuperating at home. Give him a call or drop him a line. I know he'd appreciate hearing from you. Ray was scheduled to host our March 4th meeting, but we had to put him "on hold" for later in the year and Jack Towers offered to substitute for the Old Pro. Jack was a special guest of the New York Chapter last week and he's going to bring us the same program, with his added highlights, on Saturday evening, March 4th, 8 p.m. at Omega House.

Please come and bring a musically aware guest. You'll enjoy yourselves. We also have more news on Ellington '89 to share with you.

Incidentally, our host for the April 1st session is the urbane and erudite D.J. for radio station WDCU, Bill McLaurin. But more about that in our next correspondence.

Until later -

Madly,



Terrell A. Allen

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March 24, 1989

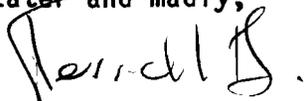
Hi Ellingtonian,

First things first. Our host for our April 1st meeting is Bill McLaurin, the urbane and erudite D.J. for WDCU f.m. This is another of those "don't miss" programs -- Duke Ellington for the young-in-heart! Again, don't miss it. We start at exactly 8:30 p.m. Saturday night, April 1st, Omega House, 13th & Harvard St., N.W.

Ellington '89 is upon us. I have been told to remind you to send in your registration funds right away. There are only a few short weeks left until opening day on April 26th. Those of you who contributed seed money can deduct that amount from the \$150 registration fee and send in the balance. Do it quickly, please. Time's awasting.

The Baltimore contingent has come up with a good idea to help us raise funds for the Conference. They're passing out raffle books with a nice cash prize that I know you'd appreciate winning. So, come out to the session and buy an arm full. They'll thank you for your cooperation and so will I.

Later and madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

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April 21, 1989

Hi Ellingtonians,

The time has finally arrived. The hour has come and there are still a few of you who haven't as yet sent in your registration form, and we do start registering this coming Wednesday, April 26th, at 5:00 P.M. If you still plan on attending Ellington '89 at the Mayflower please hurry and get your funds in the mail. You won't want to miss any of the sessions, especially the musical ones. We coaxed Jimmy Hamilton out of semi-retirement to play for us with the Doug Richards band on Friday night and Saturday. Herb Jeffries and June Norton are going to perform and neither of them has lost anything! Herb's voice is deeper and richer if that's possible and June's mellifluous mezzo is still as smooth as pear ice cream. Alice Babs is coming and though she isn't scheduled to sing -- who knows? She might be persuaded to let us bask in her aura for a couple of bars or so. We need volunteers. If you want to help your chapter overcome a few personnel difficulties like ticket-taking, etc., give Ann Ledgister a ring on 554-5187 or call me at 529-5972. Call immediately, if not sooner -- we'll appreciate it.

One last word (or two). The unveiling of the plaque commemorating the Duke's birthplace is going to be a big thing -- media event and all. Mercer will be there to participate and we'll have live music. Felix Grant -- may his tribe increase -- has been working for years on this project and it is one that you won't want to miss. I'll even say that you can't afford to miss it. Felix and his sweet June have gone to great expense and time to make this a memorable event. That's Saturday morning, 10:00 A.M., promptly at Ward Place and 22nd Street.

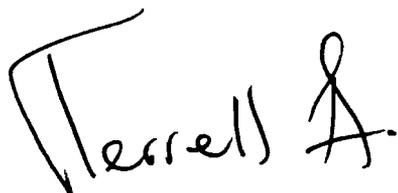
Oh yes, there is a chapter meeting on May 6th at Omega House, hosted by the Baltimoreans. This will be a fun get together and a review of our conference. So we'll be looking for you.

**ELLINGTON IS FOREVER.**

The last word!! The Ellington festival at the Smithsonian Institution is still going on and it is, to say the least, fantabulous! Try to catch the last few days -- you'll feel amply rewarded.

Until actual conference time.

Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terrell A." The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first letter 'T' is large and loops back. The 'A' is also large and has a distinct loop at the top.

TERRELL A. ALLEN

# ***Black American Heritage Foundation Inc.***

*Post Office Box 3451  
Jamaica, New York 11432-3451*

## ***Board of Directors***

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and Cultural Coalition*

September 18, 1989

Mr. Terrell Allen, President  
The Duke Ellington Society, D.C. Chapter  
913 Hamilton Street N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20011

Dear Mr. Allen;

I would like to invite you, your friends, the members of the Washington D.C. Duke Ellington Society and their friends to join our Foundation in the celebration of the sixteenth anniversary of the Duke's third and final Sacred Concert.

On Sunday, November 12th, 1989 our Foundation will present our Sixth Annual Concert of Duke Ellington's Sacred Music. The concert will be held in the beautiful sanctuary of the St. Albans Congregational Church. Dr. Aaron Bell, his orchestra, the Essex County Community College Choir and guest soloist will be featured. This will be one of the rare opportunities to see Dr. Bell as a conductor. As you know, Dr. Bell is one of the few Ellington alumnus from the early 60's.

Our itinerary for that day will include a round trip bus excursion departing from Washington, stopping in Baltimore to pick up Maryland Ellington fans. After the concert there will be a full course dinner in the Great Hall which adjoins the Church. The dinner will be concluded with our annual awards ceremony. Dr. Bell and his orchestra and choir will join us for dinner and the awards ceremony.

The total cost for this excursion including the dinner is \$85.00 per person. I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to speak to membership at your next meeting. If there are any questions, please call me at 516-736-0618.

Sincerely,

  
Clarence L. Irving, Sr.

CLI/vlm

***"To remember our past ... To protect our future."***

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September 27, 1989

Hi Ellingtonian,

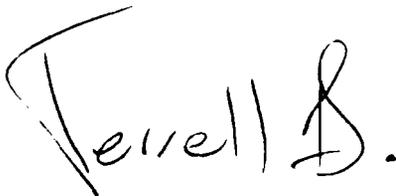
First things first -- our opening session for this season is October 7th at Omega House, 13th & Harvard St., N.W., 8:30 P.M. Our host is Ted Shell who cut short his vacation in Holland to hurry back and prepare a program for us. Very accommodating, I say, and a very worthy proxy for Jack Towers who was scheduled for our opener. Our dear friend Jack has sickness in his family. His son, Richard, is very ill and all we can do is pray for him. Ann Callanan is also ailing and we will continue to pray for her and John. The list goes on. Sjef Hoefsmit is recuperating from surgery at his home in the Netherlands and would appreciate a line or two from all his many friends in Chapter #90.

The nominating committee is drawing up a slate of new officers to lead us into the musical 90's and we'll be voting at our November meeting. Only paid-up members will be permitted to vote or hold office so be sure your financial obligations are current.

Check the enclosed memo very thoroughly. This is a very worthwhile project by The Black American Heritage Foundation and we know that the Chapter will cooperate 100%.

Please make attendance at this important meeting your No. 1 priority. We have a lot to discuss and a good program to enjoy. So try to be on time. We'll be there to greet you.

Madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

Enclosure

Hi Sjef! —  
Thanks for the  
choo-choo tape 😊. Please  
keep me advised as to your  
illness. We're praying for  
you —  
T & A

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October 25, 1989

Hi Ellingtonian,

We've scheduled a very important business meeting for November 4th and we would like a hundred percent attendance of all paid-up members of The Chapter. We should be able to wrap up all the odds and ends of Ellington '89 and start preparing in earnest for the conference next year in Ottawa.

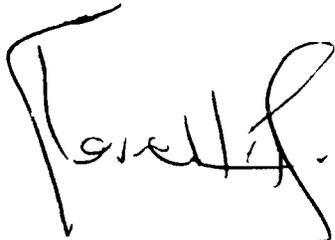
We're also going to have some good music specially planned and organized by a very capable and erudite host. So come on out and be entertained and enlightened.

Add to the growing (sadly) sick and shut-in list the name of one of our charter members, Jack Fauntleroy, the honorable Judge of The Superior Court. At last word Jack is very ill and would appreciate hearing from you. I'll let you know the details of hospitalization at the meeting.

We mourn with Jack and Rhoda Towers the passing of their only son, Richard. May he rest contentedly in the peace he so ardently desired and deserved.

So, until November 4th at Omega House, 13th and Harvard St., N.W., I'll continue to love you.

Madly,



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November 25, 1989

Hi Ellingtonian,

We wish to apologize for the mishap last month and we give you our solemn and sacred assurance that it won't happen again. Circumstances beyond our immediate control was the cause of the confusion. The brethren at the Omega fraternity are duly apologetic and remorseful and ask your forgiveness.

Jack Towers, our host for the December 2nd meeting, promises us an evening of "new" music -- new to our ears, anyway. So, be there at Omega House, 13th and Harvard St., N.W. It will be an interesting and entertaining session. We also want to discuss holiday plans and other important items with you.

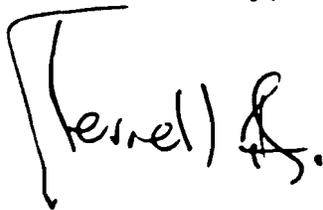
We just received word that John Callanan suffered an aneurysm on his brain and is in "guarded" condition at the Washington Hospital Center. Please put him on your emergency prayer list so that the good Lord will let him recover and return soon to his family.

Our sick list continues, unfortunately, to grow. Felix Grant, to whom The Chapter owes so much, is recovering from serious surgery. He'd appreciate your cards and letters of encouragement.

Jack Dennis, another Chapter member, is also recuperating at home. We pray for his complete recovery.

So, until we greet you with an outstretched hand or arms (according to your gender) 😊 .

Later and Madly,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

*Hi -  
How did the  
surgery come out? - OK?  
Wife. I guess you already  
heard that Callanan passed -  
Too bad - I was very fond  
of him. T.A.*

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December 29, 1989

Holiday greetings and salutations to all of you Ellingtonians.

This has been a very beautiful Christmas for me and my household as I hope it has been for you and yours. I can't help but feel sad over the loss of dear friends both in and out of The Chapter who aren't around to celebrate the blessings and promises of the Third Gospel with their families and friends. However, for some reason, you are here and I am here, for now, and let's be thankful for that.

A new year -- a new decade -- and a new host, Jehangir Dalal, our friend from India. One of the most knowledgeable of our Chapter members, Jehangir insists on keeping his own counsel on the content of his program on January 6th, 1990. He wants it to be a surprise and his only comment is that it will be totally "accessible Ellington," which could mean anything from new or old versions of Solitude or The Degas or Controversial Suites. Anyway, it will all be listenable and entertaining and titillating. (Take your pick.)

We're going to have a good time and start off the New Year in a festive fashion. We're going to have refreshments and I am being persuaded to bring along a bowl of something or other that will wreck your calorie counter. 😊

So -- love to you all and my best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Later,



TERRELL A. ALLEN

P.S. Start a friend's New Year off right and bring them along with you. They'll bless you for it. 13th and Harvard Street, N.W., on Saturday, January 6th at 8:30 P.M.

